

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AEC-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01

SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 IO-10 ACDA-10 /138 W

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R 091400Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7183

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

IAEA VIENNA 0058

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 0190

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, BR

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF NUCLEBRAS PRESIDENT

REF: BRASILIA 8544; RIO A-146

1. SUMMARY - ON JANUARY 3, FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL, PAULO NOGUEIRA BATISTA WAS OFFICIALLY NOMINATED AS PRESIDENT NUCLEBRAS, GOB ORGANIZATION REPLACING CBTN AS NUCLEAR MANAGEMENT COMPANY (SEE REFTTEL FOR BIO DATA AND DESCRIPTION OF GOB'S REORGANIZATION OF ITS NUCLEAR ENERGY ACTIVITIES). IT IS EXPECTED THAT MINISTER BATISTA WILL LEAVE HIS PRESENT POSITION AS CHIEF OF FOREIGN OFFICE ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT SOME TIME IN JANUARY TO TAKE OVER HIS DUTIES IN NUCLEBRAS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN HIS NEW CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF NUCLEBRAS, NOGUEIRA BATISTA WILL BE INTIMATELY INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF BRAZIL'S
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NUCLEAR POLICY AS IT RELATES PARTICULARLY TO THE ESTABLISHMENT

OF A FULL FUEL CYCLE INDUSTRY IN BRAZIL. THOUGH GOB WILL RETAIN 51 PERCENT OF NUCLEBRAS, THE COMPANY IS OPEN TO SHAREHOLDERS AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE INITIAL CAPITAL WILL BE CR\$1 BILLION (APPROXIMATELY US 135 MILLION). NUCLEBRAS AS A CENTRAL COORDINATING AGENCY WILL BE ALLOWED TO CREATE SUBSIDIARIES AND SIGN CONTRACTS WITH PRIVATE, DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN COMPANIES.

3. IN HIS FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER NOMINATION, BATISTA STATED THAT HE WAS NOT ABLE TO ANNOUNCE PLANS AND PROGRAMS FOR THE NEW ORGANIZATION; THE THRUST OF NUCLEBRAS WOULD DIRECTLY DEPEND UPON THE MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY. BATISTA DID SAY THAT NUCLEBRAS WILL EMPHASIZE QUALITY CONTROL FOR THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY AND DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES. AS REGARDS THE AREA OF QUALITY CONTROL, BATISTA STATED THAT "...THE CREATION OF A NUCLEAR INDUSTRY IN BRASIL (INDUSTRY FOR REACTOR COMPONENTS AND INDUSTRIES FOR FUEL CYCLE PRODUCTION) WILL CERTAINLY BRING TO BRAZILIAN INDUSTRY IN GENERAL THE CONTRIBUTION OF ELEVATING QUALITY STANDARDS IN PRODUCTION." BATISTA ALSO SAID THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A POOL OF QUALIFIED TECHNICIANS "...WILL BE ONE OF THE MOST SERIOUS PROBLEMS THAT WILL CONFRONT NUCLEBRAS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS INDUSTRIAL PROGRAM AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH." IT IS ESTIMATED THAT NUCLEBRAS WILL NEED 2,000 NEW TECHNICIANS OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. BATISTA STRESSED "COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND UNIVERSITIES IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE STAFF THAT IS NECESSARY TO CREATE AND DEVELOP ADEQUATE BRAZILIAN TECHNOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS TO THE NATION'S PROBLEMS" IN THE NUCLEAR AREA.

4. COMMENT: WITH REGARD TO TRAINING OF TECHNICIANS, CBTN'S THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT FOR 1974 STATED THAT CBTN (AND NUCLEBRAS) IS IN THE PROCESS OF PROGRAMMING PERSONNEL AT FOREIGN LABORATORIES FOR TRAINING IN THE TECHNIQUES OF ISOTOPE ENRICHMENT. AN ENGINEERING TEAM WILL ALSO BE SENT FOR ONE YEAR TO KWU IN GERMANY.
JOHNSON

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